

IN THE CLAIMS

Add the following new claims:

57. (New) A method of using the implant of claim 37 for fixation of a bone fracture and for applying compression across the fracture, said method comprising the steps of:

implanting the first leg longitudinally in a fractured bone such that the first leg extends across the fracture and said bend extends outwards of the bone and the second leg extends over a superficial surface of the bone,

applying a pulling force on the second leg to develop tension in the wire element and produce compression across the fracture, and

securing the second leg to the bone while the wire element is in tension.

58. (New) A method as claimed in claim 57, comprising forming the wire element with a pair of said first legs and a pair of said second legs which are joined to one another by respective said bends, said pair of second legs being connected by a further bend extending in a plane substantially perpendicular to the bends connecting the first and second pair of legs.

59. (New) A method as claimed in claim 58 wherein said pulling force is applied to said further bend.

60. (New) A method as claimed in claim 57 wherein the wire element is

secured to the bone while in tension by engaging a washer with the pair of second legs and securing the washer to the bone.